

## FOREWORD

*Training is the Army's top priority; it prepares us to fight. As leaders, our sacred responsibility is to ensure that no soldier ever dies in combat because that soldier was not properly trained.*

Training is the cornerstone of readiness and the basis for credible deterrence and capable defense. Training is the means by which the Army's quality soldiers and leaders develop their war fighting proficiency and exercise the collective capabilities they will require in combat. Training prepares soldiers, leaders, and units to fight and win in war—the Army's basic mission.

While senior leaders determine the direction and goals of training, it is the officers and noncommissioned officers at battalion, company, and platoon level who ensure that every training activity is well planned and rigorously executed. This manual is for them—the leaders at battalion level and below.

FM 25-100, *Training The Force*, established our training doctrine. FM 25-101, *Battle Focused Training*, applies this doctrine and assists leaders in the development and execution of training programs. It provides practical "how to" guidelines for officers and NCOs, including techniques and procedures for planning, executing, and assessing training. Above all, FM 25-101 builds on the emphasis in FM 25-100 on the importance of battle focus in training.

Our duty as leaders is to provide demanding and realistic training for our soldiers. FM 25-101 will help us do that, and I expect all officers and NCOs, particularly those in battalion- and company-level units, to understand and apply the methods discussed in it. Leaders at every level must redouble their commitment to tough, realistic training.

Training is the Army's top priority and don't you forget it!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl E. Vuono', with a stylized, cursive script.

Carl E. Vuono  
General, United States Army  
Chief of Staff